

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of November 17, 2008 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

Applicant has amended claim 1, and deleted claims 2-24. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1 and 25-32 are currently pending. Applicant requests reconsideration of the pending claims.

As a preliminary note, Applicant acknowledges on page 2 of the Office Action that Applicant failed to include the text "at the time of this invention" with regard to asserting priority over Kim et al. (US 6356335) and Kim et al. (US 6335776) in the response filed on July 22, 2008. Applicant hereby submits that Kim et al. (US 6356335) and Kim et al. (US 6335776) and the present application, were commonly assigned and subject to an obligation of assignment to LG.Philips Co., Ltd. at the time of the invention.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Kim et al. (US 5767926A; hereinafter "Kim") and Suzuki et al. (US 6256082; hereinafter "Suzuki"), rejects claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by "Kim" and "Suzuki" as applied to claims 1 and 32 in view of Takeda et al (US 6724452; hereinafter "Takeda"), rejects claims 26-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Kim" and "Suzuki" as applied to claims 1 and 32 in view of Yamamoto et al (US 5657100; hereinafter "Yamamoto"), rejects claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Kim" and "Suzuki" as applied to claims 1 and 32 in view of Shimada (US 5710609; hereinafter "Shimada"), rejects claims 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Kim" and "Suzuki" as applied to claims 1 and 32 in view of VanderPloeg et al (US 5859681). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to further define the invention. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1, as amended, is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a

combination of elements including, for example, "...a plurality of gate lines for applying a gate signal, the gate lines crossing the data lines to define a plurality of pixel regions, wherein each pixel region has a multi-domain structure which includes a dielectric structure or a slit; a thin film transistor (TFT) near each crossing of the gate lines and the data lines; a common electrode on the second substrate; a pixel electrode connected to a drain electrode of the thin film transistor in each pixel region; and an auxiliary electrode line electrically connected to at least one of the gate lines in each pixel region, the auxiliary electrode line and the multi-domain structure distorting an electric field applied between the common electrode and the pixel electrode to thereby form at least two domains in each pixel region during an operation of the multi-domain liquid crystal display, wherein the auxiliary electrode line is formed between the pixel electrode and the data line at an outside of the pixel electrode in the pixel region and the auxiliary electrode line is spaced apart from the data line, wherein the common electrode includes an opening area, and wherein the auxiliary electrode line takes advantage of the gate signal applied to the gate lines to form the multi-domain" (Emphasis Added). None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of claim 1. Firstly, the cited references fail to teach or disclose at least "wherein the auxiliary electrode line takes advantage of the gate signal applied to the gate lines to form the multi-domain". Secondly, on pages 3-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner notes that "Kim" discloses "wherein each pixel region has a multi-domain structure which includes a dielectric structure (layer 6 made of silicon nitride)", and notes that "Kim" discloses "the auxiliary electrode line and the multi-domain structure distorting an electric field applied between the common electrode and the pixel electrode to thereby form at least two domains in each pixel region during an operation of the multi-domain liquid crystal display" in fig. 8. However, Applicant respectfully disagrees. "Kim" fails to teach or suggest at least "each pixel region has a multi-domain structure" as well as "the multi-domain structure distorting an electric field applied between the common electrode and the pixel electrode to thereby form at least two domains in each pixel region". See figs. 7 and 8 of "Kim". There are no at least two domains in each pixel region. Further, there are no the multi-domain structure distorting an electric field applied between the common electrode and the pixel electrode. Thus, the cited references including "Kim" fail to disclose the feature of claim 1. For

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at least this reason, Applicant submits that claim 1 and claims 25-32, which depend on claim 1 variously, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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